(*c*) Where a complaint has been preferred by a private individual against a Police Officer before a competent court, the subject matter of the complaint is not enquired into, prior to or during the judicial enquiry; but the circumstances leading to the institution of a complaint against a Police Officer are carefully looked into in cases where accused Police Officers apply for aid from Government to defend themselves.

Petitions re corruption of Police Officers.

359. **MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Karunagapalli*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any petition has been received by the Commissioner of Police against any of the officers of the Police Department in 1107 alleging corruption, and, if so, the number of such petitions and the names of the officers against whom such petitions were made;

(*b*) whether the Commissioner of Police has personally conducted any enquiry at the place from where such complaints arose, and, if so, the date on which and the place where such enquiry was conducted and the result of such enquiry; and

(*c*) whether in any one of those cases the District Superintendent concerned has reported to the Commissioner of Police in support of the petitioners?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) A statement* furnishing the information is laid on the table. Government do not propose to give the names of officers against whom such petitions have been sent, as they consider it objectionable to do so.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) 1.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): In regard to part (*b*) may I know the reason why the Commissioner of Police has not conducted any personal investigation into the matter?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): He generally conducts enquiries through his District Officers.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Am I to understand therefrom that in regard to allegations of corruption made about the subordinate officers, the Head of the Department is not bound to make any enquiry himself?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): He is not bound.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Is that the practice here obtaining?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): If, in any case, the enquiry by the District Superintendent of Police or the Assistant Superintendent of Police is found to be not quite complete, or, if the Commissioner of Police thinks that a further scrutiny is necessary, he will attend to it himself.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): What are the conditions under which the Commissioner would ordinarily be induced to think that an enquiry completed by the District Superintendent of Police or the Assistant Superintendent of Police was insufficient?

*. *Vide* Appendix II—page ii.

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): He can know from a perusal of the report sent to him of the enquiry whether there is anything material that has been left out.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Has this been the practice during the time of Mr. Bishop, the present Commissioner?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not think so.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Has he conducted any personal enquiry?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not know.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): In regard to this, does the member think that it is safe to allow these District Superintendents of Police and Assistant Superintendents of Police to be in full charge of these enquiries, when these complaints are made against local policemen?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There can be no collusion between the District Superintendent of Police who is a very high officer and a subordinate like the policeman. The District Superintendent of Police is a high officer in charge of a District and he may be trusted to conduct an enquiry properly.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Has it ever been brought to the notice of Government that sometimes these District Superintendents of Police and Assistant Superintendents of Police are themselves guilty of dereliction of duty?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I cannot recollect any case.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): With regard to part (*c*) may I know the reason why all these 19 cases are even now pending and why these allegations are not being promptly enquired into and disposed of?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): They must be at various stages.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): May I know why, in cases of allegations of bribery, corruption, extortion, dishonesty and such other grave matters, the Commissioner of Police should allow these matters to be pending for such a long time?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not think that they have all been actually pending for a long time.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) Does the member think that at times when the Commissioner of Police goes out on inspection it is proper that he should enquire about these complaints?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is a matter of opinion.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): I am asking for the Government's view on the matter?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Whether in the course of an enquiry the Commissioner of Police should interfere is a matter on which it is difficult to pronounce the view of Government.

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MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : Is the disinclination on the part of the Police Commissioner to make a personal enquiry due to his want of knowledge of the vernacular ?

PRESIDENT: The supplementary question should bear on the question.

Utilisation of the Armed Reserve and the Auxiliary Force in 1107 for maintenance of peace.

360. **MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Karunagapalli*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the number of times and the period during which the Armed Reserve and the Auxiliary Force were employed for preservation of peace and order in the year 1107 ;

(*b*) the occasion on which and the reason for such employment ; and

(*c*) the expenditure incurred by Government for such employment ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) A statement* furnishing the information is laid on the table.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : In regard to item No. (1) of the Appendix, may I know whether there was at that time any breach of the peace itself or these people were able to prevent an apprehended breach of the peace ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : It was an apprehended breach of the peace.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : Was there any actual breach of the peace during the period they were staying there ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I cannot say.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : Was there any instance in which these policemen themselves caused a breach of the peace by assaulting the public ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : No.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : Was there no complaint about it ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Complaints there may have been.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : Has it been brought to the notice of Government ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It may have been proved that there was no such assault.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Is the enquiry in regard to that matter complete ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : Is that the enquiry into the complaint that the police assaulted the public on the high way ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Is the enquiry complete in regard to the lock-ups ?

Vide Appendix III—page iii.

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